

REMARKS

This Amendment has been prepared in accordance with the revised amendment practice as set forth in revised 37 C.F.R §1.121 effective July 30, 2003. Attorney for Applicants has carefully reviewed the outstanding Office Action on the above-identified application. Applicants have amended the application, as set forth herein, and respectfully submit that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claims 32-33, 35-40, 43, 47, and 54 were allowed. Claims 9-10, 19-20, 29-31, and 51-53 were indicated in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To expedite issuance of a patent, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 48 to include the subject matter of allowable Claims 9, 19, 29, and 51. More particularly, Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to include the features of allowable Claim 9, have cancelled Claim 9, and have amended Claim 10 to depend from Claim 1. Claim 9 was also amended to provide antecedent basis, such that the word "first" was inserted before "transmitter" and "receiver."

Applicants have amended independent Claim 11 to include the features of allowable Claim 19, have cancelled Claim 19, and have amended Claim 20 to depend from Claim 11. Claim 11 was also amended to include the word "first" before "receiver."

Applicants have amended independent Claim 21 to include the features of allowable Claim 29, have cancelled Claim 29, and have amended Claim 30 to depend from Claim 21. Claim 21 was also amended so that the steps of "transmitting the amplitude modulated signal..." and "receiving a reflected amplitude modulated signal..." also include the phrases "using a first transmitter" and "using a first receiver," respectively.

Finally, Applicants have amended independent Claim 48 to include the features of allowable Claim 51, have cancelled Claim 51, and have amended Claim 52 to depend from Claim 48. Additionally, Claim 48 was amended to include the phrase "using a transmitter" in connection with the step of "transmitting the amplitude modulated beam of light...."

Since independent Claims 1, 11, 21, and 48, as amended herein, are allowable, pending claims 2-8, 10, 12-18, 20, 22, 24-28, 30, 31, 44-46, 49-50, 52, and 53, which depend from amended Claims 1, 11, 21, and 48 and contain all of the limitations thereof, are also allowable.

Applicants have made the aforementioned amendments to expedite issuance of a patent. No representation is made as to the merits of the rejections raised in the Office Action, and in fact, Applicants expressly disagree with same. Applicants

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preserve their right to present the subject matter of any of the cancelled claims in a continuation application.

All issues raised in the Office Action are believed to have been addressed. Claims 9, 19, 23, 29, 34, 41-42, and 51 were cancelled, and Claims 1, 10-11, 20-21, 30, 48, and 52 were amended. Claims 1-8, 10-18, 20-22, 24-28, 30-33, 35-40, 43-50, and 52-54 are pending and are in condition for allowance. No new matter is believed to have been added. Favorable action is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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